
The Communion of the Saints

Part 6:

The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper



Introduction



**John Rogers
(1500-1555)**

Introduction



**Mary I of England, aka
“Bloody Mary”**

Introduction



Martyrdom of John Rogers

Rogers was the first of 284 Protestants martyred under Queen Mary

The Marks of the Church

**The Right Doctrine of
the Word of God**

The diagram consists of a central gold triangle. Inside the triangle, the text 'The True Church' is centered. Three yellow arrows point towards this central text: one from the top vertex pointing down, one from the bottom-left vertex pointing up and right, and one from the bottom-right vertex pointing up and left. Below the triangle, there are two text blocks. The left block, 'The Right Administration of the Ordinances/Sacraments', is enclosed in a red oval. The right block, 'The Right Exercise of Church Discipline', is not. A horizontal gold line is at the bottom of the slide.

**The True
Church**

**The Right
Administration of the
Ordinances/Sacraments**

**The Right Exercise
of Church Discipline**

The Lord's Supper

- Eucharist (meaning Thanksgiving)
 - Mark 14:23
 - Communion
 - 1 Corinthians 10:16
 - The Lord's Table
 - 1 Corinthians 10:21
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The Administration of the Lord's Supper

- Simple elements: bread and cup
 - Ordinance for **all classes**, not just for the rich or elite



The Administration of the Lord's Supper

- Not specified how often we should celebrate the Lord's Supper
 - **1 Corinthians 11:26** says, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup."



The Views of the Lord's Supper

■ Transubstantiation (Roman Catholic View)

- ❑ The Bread and Cup **Transform** into the real literal, physical body and blood of Christ
- ❑ You eat the flesh and drink the blood of Christ
- ❑ The Lord's Supper is a **sacrifice** of Christ on the cross all over again

	Catholic	Lutheran	Memorial	Calvinist
Physical Presence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Remembrance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Spiritual Presence				

The Views of the Lord's Supper



Roman Catholic Crucifix

The Views of the Lord's Supper

- **John 19:30:** “It is finished!”
- **Hebrews 10:10:** “We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”



Christian/Protestant Cross

The Views of the Lord's Supper

- Consubstantiation (Lutheran View)
 - ❑ Denies the elements transformed into the Physical Presence of Christ
 - ❑ Teaches the Physical Presence **“in, with, and under”** the elements
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The Views of the Lord's Supper

- The body of Christ is “in, with, and under” the bread



The Views of the Lord's Supper

	Catholic	Lutheran	Memorial	Calvinist
Physical Presence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Remembrance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Spiritual Presence				

The Views of the Lord's Supper

- Memorial View (Zwinglian view)
 - Communion is only a symbol of remembrance

	Catholic	Lutheran	Memorial	Calvinist
Physical Presence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Remembrance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Spiritual Presence				

The Views of the Lord's Supper

- **Zwingli said**, “It has already become clear enough that in this context the word ‘is’ cannot be taken literally. Hence it follows that it must be taken metaphorically or figuratively...’This is my body,’ means ‘The bread signifies my body’ or ‘is a figure of my body.’”
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The Views of the Lord's Supper

- Calvinist Spiritual Presence View (Reformed View)
 - ❑ Denies physical presence
 - ❑ Says Communion is *more* than just remembrance
 - ❑ Teaches that the real **spiritual** presence of Christ draws near in a special way during the Lord's Supper
 - ❑ We gain a special spiritual nourishment
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The Views of the Lord's Supper

- Those who take the bread and the cup fellowship with the body and blood of Christ.
 - **1 Corinthians 10:16** states, “Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?”
 - Share = fellowship, commune, participate
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The Views of the Lord's Supper

- **John Piper says**, “For the Lord’s Supper to be what Jesus means for it to be, something more must be happening than only eating, drinking, and remembering...When believers eat the bread and drink the cup physically we do another kind of eating and drinking spiritually. We eat and drink—that is, we take into our lives—what happened on the cross. By faith—by trusting in all that God is for us in Jesus—we nourish ourselves with the benefits that Jesus obtained for us when he bled and died on the cross. When we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we feast spiritually by faith on all the promises of God bought by the blood of Jesus.”
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The Views of the Lord's Supper

	Catholic	Lutheran	Memorial	Calvinist
Physical Presence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Remembrance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spiritual Presence				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- For Believers Only



The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- For Believers in the Context of the **Local Church: 1 Corinthians 11**
 - ❑ **Verse 17:** “When you *come together*.”
 - ❑ **Verse 18:** “when you *come together* as a church.”
 - ❑ **Verse 20:** “When you *come together*.”
 - ❑ **Verse 33:** “When you *come together* to eat, wait for one another.”
 - ❑ **Verse 34:** “If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home—so that when you *come together* it will not be for judgment.”
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The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- Views on Baptism and the Lord's Supper
 - Closed Communion
 - Only baptized members of that **particular local church** may partake of that church's Communion
 - i.e. only members of Cornerstone would be able to take the Lord's Supper at Cornerstone
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The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- Views on Baptism and the Lord's Supper
- Open Communion
 - All **professing** believers, baptized or not



The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- Views on Baptism and the Lord's Supper
 - Close Communion
 - Professing believers who are **baptized**
 - Baptism is the first public proclamation of discipleship. The Lord's Supper is the **ongoing** proclamation of discipleship
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The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- Believers who participate in a worthy manner
 - **1 Corinthians 11:27:** “Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.”
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The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- You must treat the Lord's Supper as a **solemn and serious** affair
 - **1 Corinthians 11:20-22:** Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, ²¹ for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk. ²² What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.
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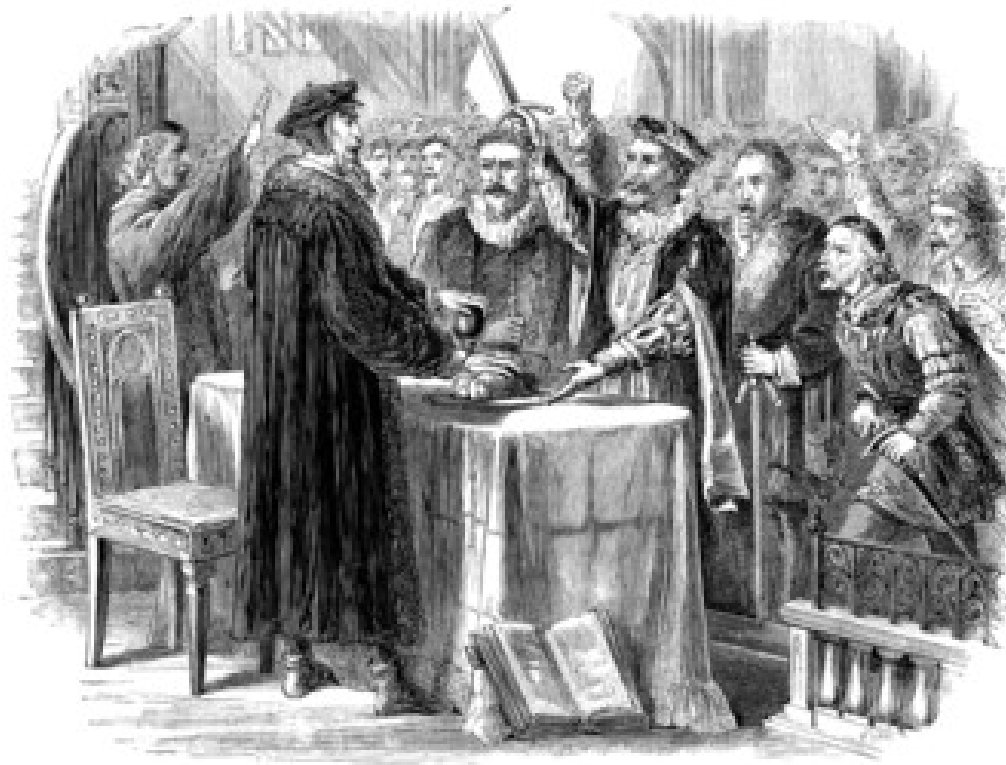
The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- You must pursue **reconciliation** within the body of Christ before the Table
 - **1 Corinthians 11:18-19:** ‘ I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it. **19** For there must also be factions among you.’
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The Participants in the Lord's Supper

- You must examine yourself such that you are not living in **unrepentant** sin
 - **1 Corinthians 11:28** says, “But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup.”
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The Participants in the Lord's Supper



Calvin's Defense of the Lord's Table from the Libertines

The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

■ Remembrance

- **1 Corinthians 11:24-25:** “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me.”
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

- “In remembrance”
 - A reminder that Christianity is based on **history**
 - A remembrance of a historical Person and historical events
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

- “DO THIS in remembrance of me”
 - We are **active** participants
 - Eating and drinking symbolizes our internalizing of the sacrifice of Christ
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

- “do this in remembrance of ME”
 - We are to remember **Jesus, the person**, not just the event of the cross
 - Do not depersonalize the gospel
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

■ Proclamation

- **1 Corinthians 11:26** says, “For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”
 - proclaim = preaching
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

- Unity
 - **1 Corinthians 10:17:** “Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.”
 - Passing the elements to each other symbolizes our unity
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

■ Fulfillment

- ❑ Passover → Communion
 - ❑ 3 basic elements at Passover: Unleavened Bread, Wine, and Lamb
 - ❑ **1 Corinthians 5:7**: Christ our Passover lamb had been sacrificed.
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The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

- Thanksgiving

- **Mark 14:23:** “And when He had taken a cup *and* given thanks, He gave *it* to them, and they all drank from it.”



The Purposes of the Lord's Supper

■ Anticipation

- **1 Corinthians 11:26:** “For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”
 - The Lord’s Supper is a promise that Christ will come back
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